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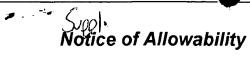
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	E FIRST NAMED INVENTOR		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.		
9/173,422	10/15/98	ALMEIDA	5			
Γ			7	EXAMINER		
OHN C SERIO		QM32/1215	FAF	FARAH,Ä		
66 MAIN STREET				ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
ITE 219 RTHAMPTON MA 01060			373	39	L	
	•		DAT	DATE MAILED: 12/15/00		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks





Application No. 09/173,422

Applica...(s)

Stephen Almelda

Examiner

Ahmed Farah

Group Art Unit 3739



All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.
X This communication is responsive to <u>the applicant's amendment filed on Sep. 25 , 2000</u>
X The allowed claim(s) is/are
The drawings filed on are acceptable.
Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
☐ All ☐Some* ☐None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
received.
received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number)
received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*Certified copies not received:
☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE THREE MONTHS ROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).
□ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.
☐ Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS
 because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.
including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No
including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on, which has been approved by the examiner.
including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment.
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal lettter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.
☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.
Any response to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.
Attachment(s)
☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892
☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s).
☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
 Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152 Interview Summary, PTO-413
☼ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
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Art Unit: 3739

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John C. Serio on Dec. 5, 2000.

2. The application has been amended as follows: The applicant is notified that claim 13 has not been entered because it is an improper claim. The applicant acknowledged and approved this matter. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to A. Farah whose telephone number is (703) 305-5787.

AF

December 5, 2000